

Remarks

This Request for Continued Examination and Reply are in response to the Final Office Action mailed January 11, 2008 and a telephone interview with Examiner William Vaughn on March 25, 2008. Applicant acknowledges the courtesy of an interview with the Examiner, during the course of which interview several amendments to the claims were discussed, the substance of which amendments are set forth fully herein.

Summary of Applicant's Amendments

The present Reply amends Claims 1, 11, and 18-28; and adds Claims 29-34, leaving for the Examiner's present consideration Claims 1-34. Reconsideration of the Application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 1-10 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 for being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Accordingly, Claim 1 has been amended as shown above. Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1, as amended, and Claims 2-10 and 26, which depend from Claim 1, conform to the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101. Reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Office Action mailed January 11, 2008, Claims 1, 5-6, 10-11, 13, 18, 20, and 25-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Patterson (U.S. Patent No. 7,093,005).

Claims 1, 11, 18, and 25

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define that an extension template "includes one or more applications, services, and startup/shutdown classes." Applicant respectfully submits that Patterson does not disclose or render obvious this feature.

Claim 1 has also been amended to more clearly define that "the first interface is also operable to extend the domain, using an extension template." By contrast, Patterson discloses a customization phase during which "a configuration program is used to add content information such as Web pages or database information, to one or more servers in the data center." (Column 8, lines 30-33). Applicant respectfully submits that Patterson does not disclose or render obvious

using an extension template to extend the domain.

Additionally, Applicant respectfully submits that the textual representations disclosed in Patterson are different from the extension templates as defined in Claim 1. In the Office Action, Examiner cited Column 39, section 7.0 of Patterson as disclosing “that a textual representation of a data center, including the customized or modified configuration settings entered by the user, is created and stored using statements expressed in Farm Editor Markup Language (FEML).” Also, Examiner alleged that the “FEML text is equivalent to the template recited in the instant application.” Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Patterson discloses that the FEML “language may be used to describe a data center and its internal components such as servers, load balancer, firewalls, etc. The language provides the ability to describe a data center at a high level of abstraction, in terms of its basic building blocks and their interconnectivity via virtual local area networks (VLANs).” (Column 39, lines 28-33). The FEML text appears to describe the components of a data center. By contrast, in the embodiment of Claim 1, the extension template includes one or more applications, services, and startup/shutdown classes. Applicant respectfully submits that Patterson does not disclose or render obvious this feature.

In view of the above comments, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1, as currently amended, is neither anticipated by nor obvious in view of the cited references, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 11, 18, and 25 have been similarly amended to more clearly define the embodiments therein. For similar reasons as provided above with respect to Claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 11, 18, and 25, as amended, are likewise neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of the cited references, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 5-6, 10, 13, 20, and 26-28

Claims 5-6, 10, 13, 20, and 26-28 have not been addressed separately but it is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable as depending from an allowable independent claim, and further in view of the additional features of these claims. Reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 2-4, 9, 12, 16, 17, 19, 23 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

obvious over Patterson. Claims 7, 14 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Patterson in view of Sommerer ("The Java Archive (JAR) File Format", by Alan Sommerer in 1998). Claims 8, 15 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Patterson in view of Aziz et al. (U.S. Patent 6,597,956, hereafter Aziz).

Claims 2-4, 7-9, 12, 14-16, 17, 19, and 21-24 are not addressed separately, but it is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable as depending from an allowable independent claim, and further in view of the additional features of these claims. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 2-4, 7-9, 12, 14-16, 17, 19, and 21-24 are similarly neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of the cited references, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application should be allowable, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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